

Northwest Oregon and Washington's most complete and accurate fishing forecast

Forecasting for the fishing week of **February 15th – February 21st, 2013**

Oregon Fisheries Update:

Willamette Valley/Metro- Two more spring chinook have been confirmed on the Willamette River, one from Sellwood and one at Milwaukie. It's likely others have been taken at Meldrum Bar in recent days, but the fishermen there usually keep it to themselves. As long as we dodge major rainstorms, the Willamette should continue to kick out the occasional early spring king, with action picking up substantially by the middle of next month. Back trollers fishing for steelhead at Meldrum Bar are having less than stellar success, as the falls count has yet to spike. Catch and release sturgeon angling in the Portland Harbor remains good for willing participants. Smelt, squid and sand shrimp are getting the most bites.

McKenzie River Water levels have been gradually dropping since the first of February, creating excellent opportunities for fly fishers to enjoy redside action. Nymphing has been most effective on partly sunny days.

The Santiams are forecast to rise a little this week but will be on the drop by the coming weekend. There are a few winter steelhead in the system and there have been reports of the occasional hookup. Chances for winters will improve later in the season.

The Clackamas River is giving up a few steelhead to anglers willing to put in their time. The native fish show up in strength February through April and the hatchery broodstock fish mimic that timing. Drift boats, sleds and bank anglers are scoring best from Riverside Park up to Rivermill Dam.

On the Sandy River, fishing has been a bit more productive. Good numbers of hatchery steelhead are showing in creel samples, while anglers have been reporting the occasional wild fish. Expect more wild fish to show up now through March and if things keep going as they have, the hatchery fish will continue their strong presence. Drift boats and pontoon boats are sporting the best results from the Dodge to Oxbow and the Oxbow to Dabney Park drifts. Peak time for winter steelhead on the Sandy River is January through March.

Northwest – With moderating flow comes moderate fishing. Steelheaders are gearing up for the 2nd of two peak periods for north coast steelheading. With the early run largely over, wild and late-run broodstock fish are now on deck for most of the district's rivers.

The Wilson and Nestucca systems will produce the bulk of the hatchery returns in the late season and reports of some large fish are fairly consistent. Good steelhead returns the last two winter seasons often translates into good returns of these larger 3-salt fish. Some of these fish are nearing or topping 20-pounds; a fish of a lifetime for most steelheaders.

The Kilchis, Trask, mainstem Nehalem as well as the numerous smaller streams on the coast should start to see a stronger influx of wild steelhead in the coming weeks. Anglers should still look for an adipose fin-clipped prize for take-home but there will only be a rare hatchery stray on most of these systems.

With dropping water conditions, the lower reaches of these systems will produce the best. Although tides are not conducive for big returns, the run timing for these coastal systems should provide opportunity for anglers through the weekend.

A soft tide series should make crabbing a possibility this weekend with reports of fair catches coming from Tillamook Bay. Netarts should also offer up some opportunity but offshore options may exist today through Friday if estuary bars are safe to cross.

Southwest- Offshore boaters haven't been able to get out this week due to high ocean swells but conditions are likely to improve late this week.

South coast beaches have been producing good catches of pinkfin surf perch. The best time to try this activity is a couple of hours before high tide.

The 2013 Lower Umpqua Flycasters' Fly Fishing Expo will be held on February 23 at the Reedsport Community Charter School. This free event runs from 9 Am until 3 PM.

Crabbing is fair on Winchester Bay. South jetty anglers have been taking good-sized striped surf perch on shrimp recently. The best bet for a hatchery steelhead is the South Umpqua where flows and fishing are fair.

Coos Bay crabbing catches have been good. Steelheading on the Coos and Coquille Rivers will improve following the next round of rainfall although the South Coquille has fish and holds promise for some action.

Water levels are low on the lower Rogue and will continue dropping through the weekend. Catches of fin-clipped winter steelhead are expected to improve through February once the water comes up. Winter steelhead catches have been slow on the middle Rogue due in part to cold water. No need to wait for March to fish winters on the upper Rogue; they're in now and at 2,000 cfs, the water flow is fishable. This bodes well for a good upper river season this year.

Chetco River steelheading has been fair over the past week for both bank and boat anglers. The water level is less than optimum for fishing and is predicted to continue dropping into the coming week which will further slow the bite.

Steelheading has been productive at times on the Elk and Sixes Rivers over the past week depending on precipitation and water conditions.

Eastern – Fall River is producing nice-sized rainbows to fly anglers using streamers and dry patterns.

The Crooked River is low - even for this system - but is still producing some trout on nymphs and midges.

Lake Billy Chinook has given up bull trout to deep trollers over the past week.

SW Washington- Although district rivers are lacking good numbers of steelhead to pursue, action is likely to pick up on the Cowlitz, Kalama and Lewis systems soon. Larger numbers of wild fish and some broodstock returns are expected in the coming weeks.

Right now, anglers seem more motivated to pursue an early spring chinook in the mainstem. Conditions are good with warmer than usual water and good clarity. Early run chinook are often the largest and with a few reported from the Willamette River, anglers are confident that they have an early season opportunity for them.

Sturgeon fishing remains poor, unless you're fishing upstream of Bonneville Dam. The Bonneville Pool is closed to retention until later in the year however.

Soapbox Update: Just when you thought it was safe to believe in fishery reform on the Columbia:

OREGON GILLNETTERS GRANTED REPRIEVE

The Oregon State Court of Appeals has granted a motion by a commercial gillnet group that will maintain the current harvest regime while the court reviews a petition from the fishermen that argues the state's recent reallocation of salmon catches between the sport and commercial sectors in the lower Columbia River is illegal, a process that could take months.

<http://www.newsdata.com/fishletter/313/7story.html>

Columbia River Fishing Report – Effort is starting to climb for Columbia River spring chinook. Boaters working the mid-river from Portland to Longview are desperate for the tastiest salmon of the season. Trollers and anchor anglers are pursuing fish destined for the Willamette or upper Columbia Basin. The Willamette River component typically shows first with the larger 5-year olds making up the bulk of the catch in the early season. Smaller sized herring such as red or green label are often used in these colder water conditions. Water temperatures are slightly warmer than what we usually witness for this time of year could make blue-label herring an option. Anchor anglers frequently use plugs but if flows are strong enough, anglers should strongly consider using herring if you can get them to spin in the current.

Sturgeon fishers did quite well in the Bonneville Pool, which is now closed to retention. A few keepers were taken downstream of Bonneville in the Portland to Longview stretch. Here is the creel check for the river up to the John Day Pool:

STURGEON:

Gorge Bank:

Weekend checking showed no catch for two bank anglers.

Gorge Boats:

No report.

Portland to Longview Bank:

Weekly checking showed no catch for three bank anglers.

Portland to Longview Boats:

Weekend checking showed two legal white sturgeon kept and eight sublegal sturgeon released for 35 boats (77 anglers).

Bonneville Pool:

Weekly checking showed four legal white sturgeon kept and 26 sublegal sturgeon released for 53 bank anglers; and 31 legal white sturgeon kept, plus eight legal, three oversize and 420 sublegal sturgeon released for 66 boats (147 anglers).

The Dalles Pool:

Weekly checking showed three sublegal and one oversize sturgeon released for 30 bank anglers; and two legal white sturgeon kept, plus one legal and 22 sublegal sturgeon released for 11 boats (29 anglers).

John Day Pool:

Weekly checking showed no catch for 25 bank anglers; and three legal white sturgeon kept, plus one oversize and 11 sublegal sturgeon released for 40 boats (92 anglers).

ODFW sez, "The requirement for recreational fishing anglers to use barbless hooks on the Columbia River and selected tributaries, and an annual bag limit of one sturgeon remain in effect and are not covered by the recent stay ordered by Oregon Court of Appeals regarding enforcement of new rules affecting commercial gillnet fishermen.

"Fishery managers from Oregon and Washington are currently in discussions that could lead to a change in the annual bag limit for sturgeon in the near future. If there is a regulation change, notification will be made immediately.

"The State remains committed to the policy decisions the Oregon and Washington Fish and Wildlife Commissions made regarding the Columbia River Fisheries Management Reform, including transition of gillnets off the mainstem Columbia and development of alternative gear for mainstem commercial fishing."

Anglers interested in bottomfishing opportunities may be able to squeak over the Columbia River Bar on Friday. With a lower tide exchange, action may be good. Admittedly, the window is small and frankly unlikely. It's surely not the best time of year to target fish here as the weather and currents are so unpredictable.

The Guide's Forecast – Conditions are certainly good for spring chinook fishing, it's just so early that one cannot expect high success rates for these fish although history has certainly proven otherwise. Those years when late February fishing has been decent, we've had a much better run to work with.

Troll herring, and small ones at that (red and green label), targeting the high tide frame; 2 hours on each side of high tide, keeping your bait ever so close to the bottom. The stretch from the mouth of the Willamette to the mouth of the Cowlitz should offer up the best opportunity. Keep in mind that Willamette bound fish are largely what your targeting so you may consider fishing on the Oregon side of the river a bit more often.

If you're sturgeon fishing and want the best action, head to the Bonneville Pool. You'll also be nearly alone as it is not a catch and release fishery here. Consumptive opportunity exists in other reaches of the mainstem but action isn't nearly as good.

The Portland to Longview stretch of the Columbia will continue to offer up the best opportunity but even shaker action will be less than impressive.

Although boaters will be tempted to pursue rockfish off the south jetty out of the mouth of the Columbia, it will be a crap shoot. The tides and currents could line up for some good fishing however. USE EXTREME CAUTION and consider going when weather patterns are a lot more stable.

Willamette, McKenzie & Santiam Rivers Fishing Report – Pro guide Chris Vertopoulos (503-349-1377) reports, "Two more spring Chinook have been confirmed on the Willamette River, one from Sellwood and one at Milwaukie. It's likely others have been taken at Meldrum Bar in recent days, but the fishermen there usually keep it to themselves. As long as we dodge major

rainstorms, the Willamette should continue to kick out the occasional early spring king, with action picking up substantially by the middle of next month. Back trollers fishing for steelhead at Meldrum Bar are having less than stellar success, as the falls count has yet to spike. Catch and release sturgeon angling in the Portland Harbor remains good for willing participants. Smelt, squid and sand shrimp are getting the most bites."

Water levels at the McKenzie have continued to gradually drop since the first of the month, down to 3,400 cfs and 3.8 feet at Vida at noon on Valentine's Day. This beautiful waterway is often a rewarding winter trout fishery when water conditions are favorable.

Both Santiam flows are fair and are forecast to be gradually dropping over the next several days. Water temperatures have increased slightly over the past week. The South Santiam is running low and will only become lower in the coming week.

Inspection stations are cropping up at this time of year to check boat hulls for invasive species. While many boaters scoff at the notion or consider stopping at these check points a nuisance, the inspection and, if necessary, treatment of watercraft is free. Over 10% of boats checked last year were infected with one or another nasty critter which could otherwise have been spread to various waterways.

Detroit Reservoir is producing decent numbers of rainbows averaging over 12 inches on the troll. The ramp is in good condition for boaters. Don't listen to the people at the Mill City store if they tell you the reservoir is closed.

Trojan Ponds and Creswell Pond are scheduled for trout stocking this week.

The Guide's Forecast – Pro guide Chris Vertopoulos (503-349-1377) predicts, "The Willamette River has kicked out a couple more confirmed spring Chinook this last week. The first confirmed springer of the week was taken at Milwaukie on Sunday by Ben Vaughn of Portland. Ben was enjoying a day on the river with his wife and 5 year old son when a hungry springer decided to devour his two year old green label herring. Also, "The Sultan of Sellwood", John Schmilenko produced his second of the season on Monday, the lucky angler was a friend from British Columbia and the fish was taken on a green label herring at Sellwood. Pictures are available of both fish on the ifish website. With the favorable water conditions, it's likely that another fish or two were taken at Meldrum bar or in the Garbage Hole at Oregon City, but those fella's are adamant about keeping things quiet. This coming week, expect conditions to remain favorable and the effort to increase with the recent success. Steelhead fishing at Meldrum Bar has been slow with the occasional fish taken by a plunker. The number of fish over Willamette Falls has been lower than expected to warrant a boom in effort. However, two spring chinook have already ascended the Willamette falls fish ladder and that is earlier than usual. This could be a sign of a stronger springer return than expected. Catch and release sturgeon fishing in the Portland Harbor has been good to excellent for most. The effort is lighter than usual for this abundant winter time fishery, but anglers don't get too excited about catch and release. Expect the action to hold up through April."

The lower McKenzie will fish well at the current and flow anglers will find over the next few days. It'll be primarily a nymph show bit keep an eye out for brief hatches. Be sure to include Prince Nymphs, Possie Buggers and Hare's Ears in your arsenal.

Rising water temperatures on the North Santiam have resulted in steelheaders catching some very late summer fish between Packsaddle and Mehama this week. Numbers of winters over the Falls is lower than anticipated and, as a consequence, far too low in the Santiams to be optimistic about targeting them.

Clackamas and Sandy River Fishing Reports – Pro guide Chris Vertopoulos (503-349-1377) reports, "The Clackamas River is giving up a few steelhead to anglers willing to put in their time. The native fish show up in strength February through April and the hatchery broodstock fish mimic that timing. Driftboats, sleds and bank anglers are scoring best from Riverside Park up to Rivermill Dam."

"On the Sandy River, fishing has been a bit more productive. Good numbers of hatchery steelhead are showing in creel samples, while anglers have been reporting the occasional wild fish. Expect more wild fish to show up now through March and if things keep going as they have, the hatchery fish will continue their strong presence. Driftboats and pontoon boats are sporting the best results from the Dodge to Oxbow and the Oxbow to Dabney Park drifts. Peak time for winter steelhead on the Sandy River is January through March."

The Guide's Forecast – Pro guide Chris Vertopoulos (503-349-1377) predicts, "On the Clackamas River, anglers are enjoying light to average pressure. The majority of the winter steelhead seem to be on hiatus, but persistent fishermen are getting a fish or two. The water level is good but running on the clear side. On a recent solo float from Feldheimers to Barton, only two other boats and two bank anglers were encountered along the way. No one I spoke with, including myself, had any action the entire drift. While loading my pontoon boat and gear into the truck at the Barton ramp, I decided to take one last cast with the bobber rod, only to hook and land a gorgeous 8-9 lb. wild hen. Free drifters down river have reported a fish or two here and there, but both pressure and action are on the light side. Rain is needed and anglers can expect the fishing to improve when it finally comes and adds some color to the water. Peak time for Clackamas winter steelhead is February through April."

"The Sandy River continues to hold its own as a producer of winter steelhead. Although the water is gin clear, it still puts out a fish or two for the seasoned angler willing to put stealth presentations to the test. Mild temperatures have been melting the glacier and snow on the mountain, giving the river a slight bump in flow, but rain is badly needed here and the immediate forecast has little in sight. When it does come, and the river rises above eleven feet and begins to drop with some color to it, the action should improve substantially for anglers wanting to apply the usual techniques. Best action as of late has been between Oxbow Park and Dabney Park and fishermen are finding a few fish in the deeper riffles and slots. Until we get a good rise, I encourage drifters to anchor their boats well upstream of the water they intend to fish, get out of the boat and work the riffled water and boulder gardens from the shore. Bobber and jig fishing can be a deadly tactic in the low, clear water conditions we are experiencing. Expect the run to hold up through March and into the first week of April."

North Coast Fishing Report – It has been another week of predictably mediocre fishing on the North coast. Anglers are still awaiting the big push of late running broodstock fish and natives to enter North Coast Rivers.

With stable water conditions, anglers didn't have a whole lot to look forward to this week. A fair tide series over the weekend should have produced a few fresh fish, but overall anglers realized fair fishing at best.

As usual, the Wilson and the Nestucca Rivers saw the most pressure due to greater opportunities for hatchery fish. Anglers did find some success but the best results came prior to the weekend.

Action still was only fair following a small bump in the river levels, but quickly tapered by the weekend with higher pressure and lower flows dominating the waterscape. By the weekend, anglers were spending more of their time in the lower reaches where the chance of fresh tidewater bound steelhead existed. Flows are low now and only expected to drop throughout the week and weekend.

The Trask and Nehalem Rivers were also weekend options with both starting to see larger returns of wild fish. Although still weeks away from better fishing, some quality sized natives should start to make a stronger presence beginning this week. Unfortunately, water conditions as well as tidal influx likely won't produce great results through the weekend. The Nehalem River in particular should start to see some fair fishing in the weeks ahead.

Smaller streams such as the Kilchis, Necanicum and the North Fork of the Nehalem River all have steelhead present but with low clear water conditions, results have been poor. The smaller systems remain too low for a driftboat but small rafts and pontoon boats can get downstream safely. That does not mean that you can ignore safety factors, the smaller streams often become even more treacherous in lower flows.

Depending on how long this low water lasts, the next significant flash of rain should bring measurable results for both broodstock and native steelhead. Although better fishing is certainly ahead, as we have mentioned several times in our newsletter, adult returns of steelhead are clearly not what they were the last few years. The one standout feature for this year's steelhead run is the fact a fair number of larger three-year old fish are showing in the catches.

With the onset of the fair weather system dominating our region, saltwater anglers can't but help dream about offshore opportunity for various bottomfish species. Unfortunately, a large swell has also dominated the region keeping saltwater anglers at bay. That may change by the weekend so be sure to check out the forecast section.

Sturgeon effort continues to be light; a clear indication that keeper success rates are poor. A good tide existed throughout the weekend, they're just weren't that many anglers taking advantage of it.

Alder Lake, Buck Lake, Carter Lake, Cleawox Lake, Dune Lake, Elbow Lake, Erhart Lake, Georgia Lake, Lost Lake (Lane County), Munsel Lake, North Georgia Lake, Perkins Lake and Siltcoos Lagoon are scheduled for planting with hatchery trout.

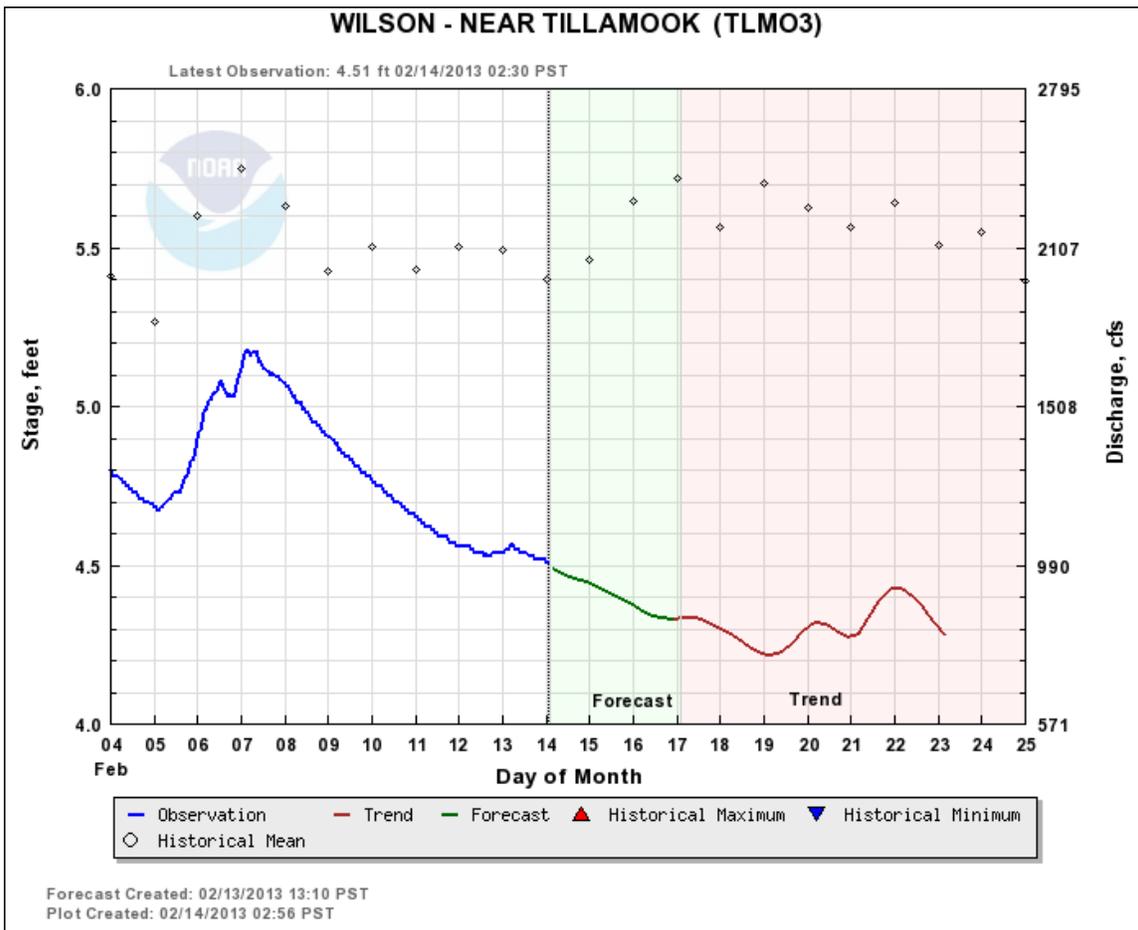
The Guide's Forecast – With another week of no significant precipitation in the forecast, expect steelhead conditions to get even more challenging. Low, clear water conditions are expected to dominate the region through the weekend, forcing anglers to pursue steelhead in the extreme lower reaches of these rivers.

Smaller systems like the Necanicum and North Fork Nehalem may provide some opportunity for natives but it will only happen in the tidewater reaches. Bobber and jig or bait can be effectively employed in some of these tidewater reaches but anglers have to know the best time of the tide to target fish here. The last 2 1/2 hours of outgoing tide tend to be most productive, especially on the lower tide exchanges like what we will witness over the weekend.

For anglers pursuing steelhead in the tidewater reaches, access can be hard to come by but those anglers that know their way around can score decent success under these types of water conditions. Bobber and jig often takes steelhead with bait an option too. Anglers can also pitch hardware at steelhead during the incoming and high tide portions of the day.

The larger systems will be the go to rivers this weekend however. The Nehalem especially could be a top prospect barring any drastic changes in the predicted weather pattern. The Beaver Slide drift to Roy Creek should be one of the better options over the weekend but anglers should still not anticipate lights out fishing. Remember, you'll have to have your Tillamook County Park Pass to access this take-out or a day pass can be purchased.

The Wilson River from Donaldson's to Sollie Smith and Sollie Smith downstream will hold the greatest number of steelhead through the weekend. Bank anglers should still have opportunities upriver but they will have to target fish in snaggy pocket water so plan on bringing a lot of gear. The same holds true for the Nestucca system with boaters doing best downstream of First Bridge and bank anglers doing best in the upper reaches targeting the pocket water and broken surfaced deeper runs. Here's the river forecast, dry weather ahead:



Plugs could become an effective tool under these conditions. Anglers should still stick to the rule of solid colors in the early morning and cloudy days and metallic colors under clear, sunny conditions. Although bait can still be an effective tool, you will find anglers opening up their war-chest to try different techniques under these conditions. Baits can be harder to fish under these conditions because they are often driftfished and often snag more and fish more ineffective because of the weight of the bait and the distance from which it hovers above the river bottom.

Don't overlook the Trask River as it should just start to get a better return of late-running wild fish. Again on this system, the lower reaches are likely to produce the best results.

Don't expect sturgeon fishing to be all that productive this weekend. The tides are not great for concentrating fish in the deeper west and middle channels of Tillamook Bay. Anglers may find some success around the tide exchanges, particularly around the last half of outgoing and the first part of incoming. You may have to target sturgeon in the upper reaches of the estuary as rumors are circulating that crabbing has picked up. It can be hard to compete for sturgeon when crab are consistently picking off your bait.

And speaking of crabbing, recent reports from Tillamook Bay, indicate catchable numbers are present. That is surprising however as commercial effort and the simple fact it's February typically makes for challenging crabbing success. The tides are certainly feasible for good crabbing opportunity on all North Coast Estuaries through the holiday weekend. Anglers and crabbers may even get the opportunity to cross over bars and into the ocean if the offshore forecast comes through as predicted. Crabbing should be fair as it has been a mediocre season for the commercial fleet but bottomfishing should provide excellent opportunity for fish that have gone unmolested for a good period of time. Lingcod seem to be particularly vulnerable this time of year but sea bass should also provide ample opportunity. Here is the ocean forecast, Friday looks to be about the only option:

FRI

N WIND 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 2 FT. W SWELL 7 FT AT 14 SECONDS.

FRI NIGHT

N WIND 10 TO 15 KT. WIND WAVES 1 FT. W SWELL 7 FT AT 13 SECONDS.

SAT

NW WIND 10 TO 15 KT...RISING TO 15 TO 20 KT IN THE AFTERNOON. WIND WAVES 2 FT...BUILDING TO 4 FT. W SWELL 9 FT AT 16 SECONDS...BUILDING TO 11 FT LATE.

SUN

NW WIND 15 KT. WIND WAVES 3 FT. W SWELL 12 FT.

MON

SW WIND 20 TO 25 KT. WIND WAVES 5 FT. W SWELL 9 FT.

Central & South Coast Reports – The 2013 Saltwater Sportsmen's Show presented by OCEAN will be held at the Oregon State Fairgrounds in Salem on March 2nd and 3rd. Seminars will take place both days and cover a variety of offshore quarry, marine electronics and more. Buy tickets online before February 22nd to be entered in a drawing for a 7' Lamiglas 7025C rod paired with a Penn Squall 25N, a combo valued at \$370. For tickets and information, click *here*. http://www.saltwatersportsmensshow.com/tickets_2013.html

With offshore conditions predicted to moderate over the weekend, boats may have the opportunity to launch out of Newport and Depoe Bay to take advantage of what has been stellar bottom fishing for lingcod and rock fish. Rock, jetty and surf fishers should also have an opportunity to try their luck but caution is always advised during these activities. Don't turn your back on the ocean, as they say.

Sturgeon fishing is ongoing on coastal bays and estuaries but catches have been poor. We remind those who get lucky enough to land a keeper that it's one and done for the year in Oregon. This is probably the last year for any retention whatsoever as adult white sturgeon

numbers are dwindling. Many feel that even a single fish is too many and that ceasing retention is coming too late. We leave the decision up to the individual angler.

While Siletz steelheaders are still taking a few fish, the river should benefit from rain.

Steelheading has been fairly productive on the Siuslaw River but it has been a crowded waterway. Bobber dogging is effective here as is pulling plugs.

Anglers on the South Jetty at Winchester Bay have continued to take decent numbers of good-sized striped perch. One such fish weighed by local writer Pete over the past weekend topped the two pound mark. The water level at the Umpqua system is predictably low and will be dropping further over the next several days. Providing the better flow, the mainstem offers only a remote shot at a hatchery winter as most fish here will be unclipped. North Umpqua levels are fair but this is almost exclusively catch-and-release as non-native steelhead can't be kept anywhere on the Umpqua at any time of year. On the South Umpqua, where an angler has the best opportunity to hook a steelhead to take home to dinner, the water is quite low, making effective fishing a challenge. It's the right time of year for this wine to produce but while it was productive last week, catches have slowed dramatically with only an occasional winter being taken.

Crabbing has been slow to fair for the few trying it in Coos Bay over the past week. The Coos River, as with most south coast rivers, is also suffering from low, clear water levels. Steelheading has slowed here as well as the Millicoma systems. There's some hope for a hookup on the South Coos, however for stealthy steelheaders using diminutive baits.

The South Fork Coquille has produced a few winters over the past week to steelheaders using bait, bobber and jigs or drifting corkies.

Steelheading has been spotty on the lower Rogue and is likely to remain so until the next freshet. Middle river steelheading has been slow to fair in low water. Conditions will not improve until late in the coming week when a storm front is predicted to pass through and put some water back into the system. Upper Rogue water levels, while fairly low, are forecast to remain steady through the weekend and with winter steelhead in the river, holds promise for anglers.

The sewage treatment facility on the Rogue River near TouVelle State Park came under fire this week following a study commissioned by the Rogue Flyfishers Association which revealed pollution being released could negatively affect Chinook redds below the plant as well as contribute to unwanted (and unnecessary) algae growth. A sponsor of the study is pressuring the city and the state Department of Environmental Quality to investigate and, if fault is found, take action against the wastewater facility.

Steelheading is only fair at best in the low, clear waters of the Chetco River. Consider that the optimum level to fish here is when flows are between roughly 2,000 to 4,500 cfs. As of this writing on Thursday, February 14th, it's 1,800 cfs and will be steadily dropping until the next front brings relief, estimated to be late Tuesday next week. A better choice this weekend would be taking advantage of the good and improving surf perch action at Nesika Beach where bits of shrimp or Berkeley Gulp baits are being inhaled by large flatsides in rewarding number.

Elk and Sixes Rivers are too low to fish well and will remain that way until the next round of precipitation which is forecast to fall around the middle of next week. The local contact for river information is 541-332-0405.

With a foot of compacted snow atop four inches of ice at Diamond Lake, ice fishers are averaging about one fish for every two hours of effort. While that's not red-hot action, it's not a lot of

effort, either. Power Bait has been most effective here, as usual. Relax, enjoy and perhaps tempt one of those legendary Diamond lunkers.

Trout stocking resumes in the Southwest Zone this week with rainbows scheduled to be planted at Alder Lake, Buck Lake, Dune Lake, Carter Lake, Cleawox Lake, Elbow Lake, Erhart Lake, Georgia and North Georgia lakes, Lost Lake, Munsel Lake, Perkins Lake and Siltcoos Lagoon.

Central and Eastern Oregon – The low waters of the Crooked River has continued to produce decent numbers of whitefish and trout on midge patterns and on scuds in orange and pink hues.

Fall River fly fishers are taking rainbows and a few browns on olive scuds. During hatch periods, both Blue-Winged-Olives and midges are making an appearance.

Grande Ronde steelheaders have been taking decent numbers of good-sized late summer steelhead. Catches were best above Troy early this week with the Boggan's area producing recently as well. Expect to hook colorful fish this late in the season.

Lake Billy Chinook has continued to produce bull trout although there haven't been any large fish landed recently. Be aware that the boat launch at Crooked River is getting tricky in low water.

Washington fishing reports:

A new Washington state record lake trout weighing 35 pounds, 10 ounces was landed on February 4th at Lake Chelan. Another mackinaw trout was recently reported that had been caught at a depth of nearly 350 feet, Lake is over 1,500 feet deep.

From the WDF&W Weekender Report for February 2013

Last updated February 7, 2013

North Puget Sound

With fishing for steelhead and other game fish closing on several rivers in the region, anglers are shifting their attention to the marine areas where blackmouth salmon fisheries are under way.

Over the last couple of years, the San Juan Islands have been the most productive for anglers fishing for **blackmouth salmon** in February, according to fish biologists with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Anglers fishing waters around the San Juan Islands (Marine Area 7)– as well as marine areas 8-1 (Deception Pass, Hope Island and Skagit Bay), 8-2 (Port Susan and Port Gardner) and 9 (Admiralty Inlet)– have a two-salmon daily limit, but must release wild chinook salmon.

Seattle/Bremerton waters (Marine Area 10) are closed to salmon fishing, except for certain fishing piers including the Elliott Bay Fishing Pier at Terminal 86, Seacrest Pier, Waterman Piers, the Bremerton Boardwalk and Illahee State Park Pier. Detailed season and rule information is available [on the WDFW website](#).

Before heading out, anglers can check [creel reports](#) for information on catch and effort in Puget Sound. Recreational fishery samplers with WDFW collect the information each week at fishing access sites throughout Puget Sound.

Winter is also prime time to jig for **squid** in Puget Sound. Good spots include the Des Moines Pier, Redondo Pier, Elliott Bay Pier in Seattle and the Edmonds Pier. More information is available on the department's [squid fishing webpage](#). Information on fishing piers is available [here](#).

Fishing for **steelhead and other game fish** closes Feb. 1 in many regional river systems. However, some waters near WDFW fish hatcheries will remain open through Feb. 15 to provide anglers an opportunity to catch and keep hatchery steelhead. Those waters include portions of the Skagit, Wallace, Skykomish and Snoqualmie rivers. Anglers should check [WDFW's sportfishing regulations pamphlet](#) for details.

Freshwater anglers may also want to try their luck on local lakes. Lake Washington and Lake Sammamish are good spots to fish for **perch, cutthroat** and **smallmouth bass**, said WDFW fisheries biologist Danny Garrett. "Anglers have had success catching trout at both lakes recently, and bass and perch have been caught as well," he said.

South Sound/Olympic Peninsula

Blackmouth fishing opportunities expand in February, when several marine areas in Puget Sound re-open for salmon. In the rivers, steelhead are still the best bet – especially on the coast, where two razor clam digs also are scheduled at ocean beaches.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) has given the green light to an evening razor clam dig at several ocean beaches. The opening dates and evening low tides are:

- Feb. 7, Thursday, 4:22 p.m., -0.5 ft., Twin Harbors
- Feb. 8, Friday, 5:11 p.m., -0.9 ft., Twin Harbors, Long Beach, Copalis, Mocrocks
- Feb. 9, Saturday, 5:56 p.m., -1.0 ft., Twin Harbors, Long Beach, Copalis, Mocrocks
- Feb. 10, Sunday, 6:37 p.m., -0.9 ft., Twin Harbors, Long Beach
- Feb. 11, Monday, 7:17 p.m., -0.5 ft., Twin Harbors
- Feb. 12, Tuesday, 7:54 p.m., 0.0 ft., Twin Harbors

Later in February, WDFW will proceed with another digging opportunity if marine toxin tests are favorable. Tentative opening dates and evening low tides for that dig are:

- Feb. 23, Saturday, 5:12 p.m., +0.3 ft., Long Beach, Twin Harbors
- Feb. 24, Sunday, 5:47 p.m., +0.1 ft., Long Beach, Twin Harbors

Clam diggers are reminded that they should take lights or lanterns for the nighttime digs and to check weather and surf forecasts before heading out. No digging will be allowed before noon on any of the razor-clam beaches. Harvesters are allowed to take no more than 15 razor clams and must keep the first 15 they dig, regardless of size or condition. Each digger's clams must be kept in a separate container.

All diggers age 15 or older must have an applicable 2012-13 fishing license to harvest razor clams on any beach. Licenses, ranging from a three-day razor clam license to an annual combination fishing license, are available on [WDFW's website](#) and from license vendors around the state.

Meanwhile, anglers will have additional opportunities to fish for blackmouth in the marine areas of Puget Sound on Feb. 1, when marine areas 11 (Tacoma-Vashon) and 12 (Hood Canal) open for salmon. Marine areas 13 (South Puget Sound) and 6 (eastern Strait) are already open for salmon fishing.

"Fishing has been very good in the eastern Strait and Marine Area 7 (San Juan Islands), especially at Coyote, Hein and Partridge banks," said Ryan Lothrop, WDFW's Puget Sound recreational salmon fishery manager. "That should continue into February."

Later in month, anglers will also have a chance to hook blackmouth in Marine Area 5 (Sekiu), where salmon fishing open Feb. 16. "Last February, blackmouth fishing started strong at Sekiu,

and anglers continued to do well over the next several weeks," Lothrop said. "Hopefully fishing will be just as good this year once the season gets under way."

Saltwater anglers in southern Puget Sound are hooking resident **coho salmon**, said Larry Phillips, district fish biologist for WDFW. "The Tacoma Narrows has been decent for resident coho, and I've heard they are finding a few blackmouth as well," he said. "The Squaxin Island area and Eld Inlet off Evergreen Beach are two other spots anglers might want to try fishing for resident coho this time of year."

Anglers can check [creel reports](#) for information on catch and effort in Puget Sound. Recreational fishery samplers with WDFW collect the information each week at fishing access sites throughout the Sound.

Winter is prime time to jig for **squid** in Puget Sound. Good spots include the Point Defiance Park and Les Davis piers in Tacoma, and the Illahee State Park, Waterman and Indianola piers in Kitsap County. More information is available on the department's [squid fishing webpage](#). Information on fishing piers is available [here](#).

Another option is to head to a local lake and hook some trout. Anglers fishing American Lake (Pierce County) and Saint Clair Lake (Thurston County) have been doing well for rainbow trout, said Phillips. "They've been hooking some nice trout in the 13- to 16-inch range at both lakes, which have decent carry over rates for trout stocked the previous summer," he said.

In the northern rivers, the hatchery **steelhead** run is winding down, but more wild steelhead are arriving each week, said Kirt Hughes, regional fishery manager for WDFW. Beginning Feb. 16, anglers can retain one wild steelhead per license year on the Bogachiel, Calawah, Clearwater, Dickey, Hoh, Quillayute, Quinault and Sol Duc rivers. Those eight rivers are the only waters in Washington where wild steelhead retention is allowed.

"The abundant wild steelhead populations returning to those rivers also provide great catch-and-release fishing opportunities," Hughes said. Information on weekly steelhead catches in the Quillayute River system and the Hoh River are available on [WDFW's website](#).

Farther south, anglers can still find hatchery steelhead in the Skookumchuck, Satsop, Wynoochee and mainstem Chehalis rivers, where late-run steelhead are still being caught, said Hughes.

Before heading out, anglers should check [WDFW's sportfishing regulations pamphlet](#) for details on all fisheries.

Looking for some competition? Anglers can take part in the **Olympic Peninsula Salmon Derby** over Presidents' Day Weekend near Sequim. Details are available at the [derby's website](#).

Southwest Washington

Ocean bright **spring chinook salmon** are beginning to move into the Columbia River, setting the stage for one of the state's most popular fisheries. Anglers typically start landing early-returning "springers" in early February, but the fishery usually doesn't catch fire until March.

"This is a good time to dust off your gear, order your bait, prepare your boat, and maybe do a little prospecting," said Joe Hymer, a fish biologist for the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). "You want to be ready to go when the bulk of the run arrives."

The spring chinook fishery is open below the Interstate 5 Bridge until March 1, when new rules approved by fishery managers from Washington and Oregon extend the fishery further upriver. The current limit is two adult hatchery fish per day.

Barbless hooks are required to fish for salmon, steelhead and cutthroat trout in the mainstem Columbia River from the north jetty to the Washington/Oregon border above McNary Dam. Anglers may still use single-point, double-point, or treble hooks in those waters, so long as any barbs have been filed off or pinched down.

As in previous years, only hatchery-reared fish marked with a clipped adipose fin and a healed scar may be retained. All wild spring chinook, identifiable by an intact adipose fin, must be released unharmed.

Anglers may also retain two adult hatchery spring chinook per day on the Cowlitz and Deep rivers. The limit on the Lewis River, East Fork Lewis and Kalama river is one spring chinook per day through Feb. 14, after which all or part of those rivers will close to retention of spring chinook until further notice. See WDFW's [Emergency Rules webpage](#) for details.

"The Cowlitz River and waters near the Willamette River are probably the best bets early in the season, because spring chinook usually start showing up there first," Hymer said.

Starting March 1, the chinook fishery on the mainstem Columbia River will expand upriver to Beacon Rock – and to Bonneville Dam for bank anglers – under new fishing seasons approved in late January. The initial spring chinook fishery is scheduled to run through April 5, but could be extended if enough fish are still available under the harvest guideline, said Ron Roler, WDFW Columbia River policy manager.

According to the pre-season forecast, a total of 141,400 upriver spring chinook will return to the Columbia River Basin this year – well below last year's return and the recent 10-year average of just under 200,000 fish. Another 67,600 spring chinook are expected to return to lower-river tributaries such as the Willamette and Cowlitz rivers.

"Salmon returns are highly variable, and we'll have a better idea what the season holds once the bulk of the run starts moving upriver," Roler said. "Although the preseason forecast is smaller than in recent years, it is still twice as large as those we saw in the 1990s."

The harvest guideline through April 5 will allow anglers to catch up to 5,000 hatchery-reared upriver chinook below Bonneville Dam before the run forecast is updated in May. Another 670 adult fish will be reserved for anglers fishing between Bonneville and the Washington/Oregon state line, 17 miles upriver from McNary Dam.

For more information on the new season, see the [news release](#) and the [fishing rule change](#) on the WDFW website.

Meanwhile, anglers continue to reel in **hatchery steelhead** from waters ranging from the Cowlitz River to the John Day Pool and beyond. In general, the steelhead in the lower tributaries are winter-run fish, while those above Bonneville Dam are left over from last year's summer run, Hymer said.

"Hatchery-reared late-run winter steelhead are still moving up the Cowlitz and Kalama rivers and should be available to anglers for weeks to come," he said.

Anglers fishing the Columbia River can also catch and keep legal-size **white sturgeon** in areas both below and above Bonneville Dam. Anglers can keep one fish measuring 38-54 inches (fork length) per day from The Dalles Dam downstream and 43-54 inches (fork length) upstream from The Dalles Dam.

Below Bonneville Dam, the retention fishery downstream from the Wauna powerlines is open on a daily basis. Waters above the powerlines to the dam are open for sturgeon retention Thursdays, Fridays, and Saturdays only. Through April, angling is prohibited in the slough formed by Sand Island along the Oregon shore east of Rooster Rock State Park on the Columbia River.

Sturgeon retention is also open on a daily basis in The Dalles and John Day pools, but will [close in the Bonneville Pool](#) at the end of the day Feb. 10 to preserve a portion of the 1,100-fish quota in that area for a summer fishery. Fishery managers anticipate that 850 (or more) legal-size fish will be available for that purpose after the closure this month. Catch-and-release fishing will continue in the Bonneville Pool, where dates for a summer fishery will be announced in the coming weeks.

At the same meeting where fishery managers set new spring chinook rules, they also established joint sturgeon-fishing seasons below Bonneville Dam that reflect ongoing concerns about sturgeon populations in the lower Columbia River. For more information, see the [news release](#) and [fishing rule change](#) on the WDFW website.

Fishing for **Columbia River smelt** will remain closed in both fresh and saltwater statewide. In 2010, the federal government declared eulachon a “threatened” species under the Endangered Species Act.

Rainbow trout, on the other hand, are readily available in lakes throughout southwest Washington. WDFW stocked are lakes with tens of thousands of them in the past two months, and most are still available to anglers, said John Weinheimer, another WDFW fish biologist based in Vancouver. In addition, Battle Ground Lake and Kline Pond will each be stocked with 3,000 catchable-size trout in February.

Weinheimer said he’s also getting reports of **kokanee** being caught at Merwin Reservoir, adding that the action should pick up throughout the month.

Anglers and hunters who want to get prepped for the seasons ahead might want to drop by the [Pacific Northwest Sportsmen’s Show](#), which runs Feb. 6-10 at the **Portland Expo Center**. **WDFW will have a booth at the show, which will also feature plenty of outdoor gear, a kids’ trout pond and experts on topics ranging from fly fishing to elk bugling.**

Eastern Washington

February fishing throughout the region can be good for those willing and equipped to brave wintery conditions.

In the central district, two winter-only **rainbow trout** lakes continue to produce decent catches. Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) district fish biologist Randy Osborne reports fishing at Hog Canyon Lake, in southwest Spokane County off the Fishtrap I-90 exit, has been slow but anglers are hooking rainbows from 11 to 18 inches. Meanwhile, Fourth of July Lake, on the Lincoln-Adams county line south of the town of Sprague, was producing catch limits of fish over 14 inches. Osborne reminds anglers that the daily catch limit at both lakes is five fish but only two fish over 14 inches may be retained.

The region’s other two winter-only fishing lakes – Hatch and Williams in northern Stevens County – also continue to provide catches of rainbows through the ice.

Osborne reminds anglers to “use common sense” when ice fishing. The ice depth at Fourth of July is about eight inches at the narrows and about five inches at the south end, Osborne said. Although that ice is safe for the most part, there may be some thin sections or open water around the edges. Repeated thawing and re-freezing can make ice unsafe. Tips to help keep an outing safe include:

- Don’t fish alone. Let others know exactly where you and your fishing partners are going and when you plan to return.

- Keep fishing holes small and few. When drilling fishing holes with an ice auger, keep the diameter under eight inches. Bigger holes are not necessary to land fish and can create a safety hazard for others.
- Watch your step. Avoid ice fishing near feeder streams or known springs; brush, logs, plants or docks; multiple ice cracks or ice that is popping or otherwise audible; and dark-colored ice that may be weak.
- Spread out. Too many people congregated in one area may be more than the ice can safely support. Disperse weight and fishing holes.
- Be prepared with appropriate clothing and equipment for weather conditions and emergencies.

Year-round-open fishing lakes in the region are also a good bet in February. The best is probably Lake Roosevelt, the huge reservoir off Grand Coulee Dam that stretches along the north border of Lincoln County and between Ferry and Stevens counties. Most of the best fishing has been lower in the reservoir near the dam.

“Rainbow trout and **kokanee** fishing has been really good for those willing to be out on the water braving the cold,” said Osborne, who was recently among those fishing at the lake. “We’ve heard many reports of limits of rainbows ranging from 15 to 18 inches. And although fewer and farther between, anglers have been catching kokanee weighing up to 3.5 pounds.”

Other smaller year-round waters still producing include Silver Lake in southwest Spokane County and Eloika Lake in northern Spokane County, both with good catches of **yellow perch** up to 9 inches. Rock Lake in Whitman County has been consistent through the winter for rainbow and **brown trout** catches, but anglers should be prepared for wind. Sprague Lake, on the Lincoln-Adams county line, has been fair for rainbow trout. Bead Lake, north of Newport in Pend Oreille County, traditionally has catches of **burbot** at this time.

Waitts Lake in southern Stevens County, which has provided decent catches of both trout and perch, closes at the end of February.

Northcentral Washington

Fishing for **steelhead** in northcentral Washington continues through February on three waterways: 1) the mainstem Columbia River from Rock Island Dam to the boundary markers below Wells Dam and from Highway 173 Bridge in Brewster to 400 feet below Chief Joseph Dam; 2) the Okanogan River from the mouth upstream to the Highway 97 Bridge in Oroville; and 3) the Similkameen River from the mouth upstream to 400 feet below Enloe Dam.

“It’s been slow steelheading in the mainstem Columbia River above Brewster due to cold daytime temperatures,” said Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) Okanogan District Fish Biologist Bob Jateff. “Fishing should pick up as things start to warm up a little this month.”

Jateff reminds steelheaders that the Okanogan and Similkameen rivers are under selective gear rules, and there is a mandatory retention rule in effect for all steelhead fishing areas. The daily

catch limit is two adipose-fin-clipped, hatchery-origin fish, with a minimum size of 20 inches. Any steelhead with an adipose fin must be released unharmed and can't be removed from the water.

WDFW Chelan District Fish Biologist Travis Maitland also reports steelheading on the Upper Columbia River from Rock Island Dam to Wells Dam has been slow, although a few harvestable hatchery steelhead are being caught.

Beginning Feb. 8, the **Wenatchee** and **Icicle rivers** will open for steelhead fishing. The Wenatchee River will be open from the mouth to 400 feet below Tumwater Dam, while the Icicle River will be open from the mouth to 500 feet downstream of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Barrier Dam. Anglers can also fish for whitefish beginning Feb. 8 on the Wenatchee River, from the mouth to the Highway 2 Bridge at Leavenworth.

The daily limit on the Wenatchee and Icicle rivers is two hatchery steelhead, marked with a clipped adipose fin and measuring at least 20 inches in length. Anglers must retain any legal hatchery steelhead they catch until they reach their daily limit of two fish. For more information, check the [fishing rule change](#).

Other fishing opportunities in the region through February are through the ice for trout and spiny-ray fish at year-round or otherwise still-open lakes.

Maitland reports quite a bit of weekend ice fishing pressure at Fish Lake north of Leavenworth, with mixed bags of **yellow perch** and **rainbow trout**. Some of the larger perch have been 11 to 12 inches, he said.

Roses Lake, just north of Manson, has been producing mostly rainbows through the ice, Maitland says, but there are some nice perch to be found also.

"Last year the perch at Roses ran on average larger than those caught out of Fish Lake," he said. "We also still have some of those large **tiger** and **brown trout** in Roses Lake. One angler told me that he had hooked into something that he could not control and eventually broke his line. Who knows what that was?"

Jateff says ice fishing is in full swing during February in Okanogan County at the following lakes:

- Davis (near Winthrop) for rainbow trout 11-13 inches
- Patterson (near Winthrop) for yellow perch 7-9 inches and kokanee to 11 inches
- Leader (near Omak) for bluegill, black crappie, bass, yellow perch, rainbow trout
- Big and Little Green (near Omak) for rainbow trout to 13 inches
- Rat (near Brewster) for rainbow and brown trout to 15 inches
- Palmer (near Loomis) for yellow perch to 10 inches and kokanee
- Sidley/Molson (near Oroville) for rainbow trout 11-14 inches
- Bonaparte (near Tonasket) for eastern brook trout and kokanee

Jateff and Maitland remind anglers to take a cautious approach when ice fishing. Repeated thawing and re-freezing can make ice unsafe. Here are some ways to reduce the risk of fishing on ice:

- Don't fish alone. Let others know exactly where you and your fishing partners are going and when you plan to return.
- Keep fishing holes small and few. When drilling fishing holes with an ice auger, keep the diameter under eight inches. Bigger holes are not necessary to land fish and can create a safety hazard for others.

- Watch your step. Avoid ice fishing near feeder streams or known springs; brush, logs, plants or docks; multiple ice cracks or ice that is popping or otherwise audible; and dark-colored ice that may be weak.
- Spread out. Too many people congregated in one area may be more than the ice can safely support. Disperse weight and fishing holes.
- Be prepared with appropriate clothing and equipment for weather conditions and emergencies.

WDFW staff will be available to answer fishing and other questions at the first annual Wenatchee Valley Sportsmen Show, Feb. 22-24, at the Town Toyota Center in Wenatchee. For more info see <http://www.shuylrproductions.com/wvss.php> .

Southcentral Washington

Winter has cast a chill on many area fisheries, but the action should pick up for several species in the weeks ahead. Steelhead fishing usually starts to come alive in late February or early March and walleye fishing should improve as water temperatures start to rise.

In addition, the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) will start stocking Dalton Lake, Quarry Pond and the Columbia Park juvenile-fishing pond with trout next month.

But for **whitefish**, prime time is now. Relatively hard to find during most months of the year, whitefish appear during the winter months and tend to go on the bite after the snow starts to fly. Hardy anglers are now catching whitefish on the Naches and Tieton rivers, and on the Yakima River upstream from Union Gap.

"February is a perfect time to catch whitefish," said John Easterbrooks, WDFW fish manager for southcentral Washington. "Now is when they start to congregate and the catch levels rise."

Anglers can catch and keep 15 whitefish per day, but fishing gear is restricted to one size 14 single-point hook. The standard bait is a whitefish fly and a maggot. While bony, whitefish – often served smoked – have a dedicated following.

Easterbrooks reminds anglers that all fishing is closed on the Yakima River between the Highway 223 Bridge in Granger to the Interstate 82 Bridge in Union Gap. WDFW and the Yakama Nation closed that stretch of the river to protect steelhead listed under the federal Endangered Species Act.

Sturgeon fishing is another option, especially since the McNary Pool (also known as Lake Wallula) opened Feb. 1 for retention of legal-size fish. Drawing anglers from throughout the region, the fishery extends from McNary Dam upstream to Priest Rapids Dam on the Columbia River and upstream to Ice Harbor Dam on the Snake River.

Paul Hoffarth, a WDFW district fish biologist located in Pasco, said the opening at Lake Wallula should take some pressure off the fishery under way at Lake Umatilla (John Day Pool), where anglers have been chiseling away at the annual quota. "That quota has been reached very early in recent years, so anglers should go soon – and keep an eye out for updates," he said.

In both areas, only sturgeon measuring 43-54 inches from their snout to the fork in their tail may be retained.

Meanwhile, anglers continue to catch some **hatchery steelhead** at Ringold, both from the bank and by boat. Although fishing has been spotty this winter, catch rates should pick up in late February or early March, Hoffarth said. The lower Snake River is also open for the retention of hatchery steelhead through March 31. The daily limit in the Snake River is three hatchery steelhead and barbless hooks are required.

Walleye fishing can also slow down in winter, but there's always a chance of catching a lunker. Hoffarth said some of the largest walleye of the year are boated during the winter months near the Tri-Cities – including the 19.3-pound state record taken in Lake Wallula in 2007. The Oregon record, just shy of 20 pounds, was taken on Lake Umatilla during the winter of 1990.

For additional information on all these fisheries, see the [Fishing in Washington](#) pamphlet, available online.

Anglers and hunters who want to get prepped for the seasons ahead might want to drop by the [Central Washington Sportsmen Show](#), running Feb. 15-17 at the Yakima Sundome. **WDFW will have a booth at the show, which will also feature plenty of outdoor gear, a fly-casting pool and experts on topics ranging from fly fishing to elk bugling.**

TGF Inbox - Reader E-mail

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Random Links

Here's a link from our own Bob Rees - Damn Cod:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WgCc5456WgA>

Photos of Gleneden Beach tsunami debris removal:

http://dfw.state.or.us/conservationstrategy/invasive_species/tsunami_debris.asp

Keep tabs on John Montana: <http://carponthefly.blogspot.com/>

Posted at Moldy Chum: John Montana - The early Years:



GOOD LUCK!